Romance of Beautiful American Marchesa Peruzzi de Medici, Daughter of Sculptor Story

Revisiting This Country After a Half on without Interruption. I saw more of them than of any of our other friends. It was Pen who kept with the saw more of them than of any of our other friends. It was Pen who kept with the touch of the saw more of them than of any of our other friends. It was Pen who kept with the touch of the saw more of them than of any of our other friends. It was pen who kept with the touch of the saw more of them than of any of our other friends. It was pen who kept with the touch of the saw more of them. Famous Persons Among Her Friends

lca. When she sailed away from New York some fifty years ago she was strongly the characteristics of the faknown to her friends as Edith Marion, mous hand that sketched it so rapidly. the little daughter of William Wetmore Story and the granddaughter of Justice offered to give me the manuscript of Story of the United States Supreme Court.

A few years later both father and for both continents—W. W. Story as a unless my money would buy me back great American sculptor living in Rome, that manuscript, Oh, yes, I know where great American sculptor living in Rome, Edith Marion as one of the most beautiful and popular American girls abroad. Then came her marriage to the his daughters for anything so valuable. Marchese Simone Peruzzi de Medici,

"Though my early recollections are associated so closely with Italy, I couldn't feel like a stranger in America," the Marchesa told a reporter of Tue Syx like other ladies who were on intimate terest. terms with my mother.

"Mr. and Mrs. Browning were among my parent's closest friends, and their only son, Pen-Robert Barrett Browning -was my playmate and lifelong friend. I was with him during the last days of his life. You remember he died last summer and without leaving a will, so that all the wonderful treasures of art and literature collected by his father will be scattered, I am afraid. Though Mrs. Browning was a great poetess and so universally admired she never appeared to be conscious of any personal superiority. Altogether she was one of the most lovable women I have ever

"It was not very long after we went to live in Rome that my eldest brother was taken ill and died. The shock was so great that my parents were overwhelmed. Because I was so young I didn't understand just why Mrs. Browning took me home with her, though even now I recall the pleasure I felt at having tea with Pen. In a short time-it may have been the next day-I was taken ill and was carried back home. It was during my convalescence following this fever that I grew to know and love Mr. Thackeray.

"When my mother first brought him in to see me he seemed like some great benevolent giant. Within a few minutes he had won my childish heart and I forgot all difference between us. It took a long time for me to get back my strength, and it was a dark day when the dear giant didn't make me a visit. He used to sit on the edge of my little white bed or draw his chair up close beside it. Then, joy of joys, one day he brought the first chapter Owen Meredith, begin. He was the of 'The Rose and the Ring' and read guest of my father and mother for the of 'The Rose and the Ring' and read it to me

"After that each day he made his appearance with a new chapter. He would read it to me, after which we would discuss it, I remember, with much gravity. We would talk about the people in the book, and to us at least they were real It was my part to hold the pages as he passed them on after reading. His writing was wonderful, so small, so exact. It used to seem to me that a giant couldn't write so small that he must have called in some fairy to do it for him. When I told him of my suspicions he only smiled, so for a long time I really believed he had

"During some of his visits he would ask me to tell him a story. I used to

FTER an absence of more than was telling him. Of these litle drawhalf a century the Marchesa Peruzzi de Medici of Florence and Rome is revisiting Amer-

"When he came to tell me good-by he 'The Rose and the Ring.' Ignorant child that I was, I told him that I preferred to have the first copy of the book. Think of losing such a treasure! daughter became personages of interest I have never cared to be a millionaire it is. I've kept track of it, and I suppose I might have had it for the asking a second time, only I hesitated to ask

"They were charming girls, Both of head of a great family of Florence and them were with their father during chamberlain to the King of Italy. The that visit to Rome. Later I saw them beautiful American girl stepped into the inner circle of the Italian court. Queen Champs Elysees. Mr. Thackeray lived Margherita became so fond of her that not far off with his mother, Mrs. Carshe was godmother to the Marchesa's michael Smith, and his two little daugh-

the Marchesa told a reporter of THE SUN. as they arrived and took their departure. "Going abroad when I was scarcely 6 It was only when Mr. Thackeray was years old, my first friendships were among the guests that I was called. manner of Mr. Thackeray, and would cut with the many distinguished persons. He was known to be my especial friend with the many distinguished persons and hence had many privileges. It who came so often to visit my parents. At that time of course I never thought folk might be present he always reserve them. You see a child doesn't of them as unusual in any way. Even membered to ask for me and to find time Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning, whom to have some conversation suited to my of course I now admire and revere as taste. It was my custom on these oca genius, seemed in my childish eyes casions to tell him of my doings and my casions to tell him of my doings and my dolls, always feeling sure of his in- Mr. Gladstone and Thomas Carlyle were

outside my door during that terrible fever in Rome. He had a toy gun and used to tramp back and forth outside my door to make sure that no 'other horrid maladies came in.'

"James Russell Lowell was another close friend of my father's whom I seem to have known always. He and my father were classmates in Harvard, both read prize poems, and years later walked together as representatives of America at the memorable festival of the University of Bologna, the oldest in

"Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, Margaret Fuller and Charlotte Cushman were all friends from home who used to come often to visit my parents when I was a small child. Of course I heard them talk about America or 'home That was a subject of unexhaustible interest to my father, and of course to me, for even as a child my father and I were very close friends. I don't be eve such perfect sympathy exists very often between a girl and her father as we felt for each other. That is one reason I am so thoroughly an American in spite of the fact that I have lived abroad for more than half a century It is also a reason why I came in such close touch with the many famous men in his circle of intimate friends.

"Hans Christian Andersen was among them. My recollections of him are very distinct and very charming. Though strikingly homely in appearance his manner and conversation were most pleasing. He used to take the trouble o entertain me, something after the out innumerable quaint little figures from blue paper. Though I liked his realize always with whom she is associating. These friends of my parents were all so simple and charming that two of the same group. Both charm-





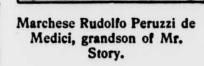
Margherita Umberta Peruzzi de Medici, namesake and god-daughter of King and Queen of Italy, granddaughter of William Wetmore Story, the American sculptor.

my recollections of Robert Lytton, greater part of the winter. At that time he was an attache at the British Embassy, but was induced by my father, because of the warm friendship existing between them and their many congenial persuits, to make his home with

"M, de Tocqueville was another famous man of that date whom I remember. He used to pinch my check so hard. Mme. Mohl was among those whose arrival and departure I used to watch with interest. I recall just how she looked, dressed all in gray with a huge bonnet and dancing papiland had to take refuge in my room to dry her tiny feet.

"It was during that stay in Paris that | ing men, but I never thought of them as among the great men of the world. The Marchesa Peruzzi de Medici's recollections extend through one of the most interesting periods of Italy's history. In those days the Popes were not shut up in the Vatican. Pius IX. was among the first to recognize the genius of her father. So great was his admiration for the work of the American sculptor that he sent several pieces of it to an exhibition in London. It was at that exhibition that the sculptor first England and France. It was the war received general public recognition.

"I remember distinctly seeing Pope coach," the Marchesa continued. "That was of course before the unification of Italy. My husband was an officer in the lote curls. Once she was in such a Italian navy before he became court IOU. hurry that she jumped into a puddle chamberlain. King Victor Emmanuel II. made him court chamberlain and he "My first acquaintance with Walter King Humbert. He sprung from a long ask me to tell him a story. I used to do my best to remember or invent some little tale to amuse him. At these times he would sit beside the table and draw he would sit beside to be were fond of music. He sprung from a long with a number or seals. Once England won the war they didn't care what because of the king's promise. Parliament the would sit be would sit be would sit be would sit be side to be were to look asks. I attner. So iar his innerted taste for on them. Queen Margherita has always won the war they didn't care what because of the king's promise. Parliament the would sit be some to some a story he will always won the war they didn't care what because of the king's promise. Parliament the would sit be some a world with the world won the world won the world world world won the world world world world world world wor illustrations in pen and ink for what I which I remember was rented for him twenty large estates in Tuscany alone. both mentioned it in speeches before in the court life at Rome. She is a said to be the finest in the world. He ize it."



"There is an I O U given by King Edward III. of England still in the possession of the Peruzzi family. It was given for money which the King borrowed to carry on the war between in which Crecy and Poltiers were the decisive battles, both gained by the Plus IX. driving out in his gilded English. Unfortunately Edward III. was not able to redeem his pledge to 'pay his good friend Peruzzi.' That is why the family still holds the royal

"It is not a bit like the I O U of to-day. Indeed it is quite a formidable continued to hold that office under affair, written on a large parchment



New York with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Story.

pay. King Edward also expressed a wish that it might be paid. I don't believe, however, the Peruzzi family has the slightest idea of getting any

"My husband's position as chamber from leaving Italy. That is one reason why so many years passed without my carrying out my intention of returning to America. Then after his death there were our children to keep me in Italy. Now that my children are grown I tak my first opportunity to return to the home of my childhood to see and know for myself the people and places my father and our friends have made me

"Because of my husband's position I have known the kings and queens very the management of his estates and in the affairs of Florence. In appearance the affairs of Florence. In appearance the affairs of Florence. In appearance the is a combination of the portraits of "How do I feel toward America? Why, Margherita that I named my second he is a combination of the portraits of daughter after her. The Queen was my daughter is godmother. Those were de Medici, and his American grand-memorable days, and I love to look back father. So far his inherited taste for for it. It is the land of my birth, of

Parliament as a debt the nation should great admirer of Beethoven, and his compositions were played more than had done so much, their names were those of any other one composer at her so closely interwoven in the history of musicals.

"It would be impossible to imagine ore perfect union than that of King Victor Emmanuel III. and Queen Elena. lain kept us at court and prevented me As the years pass they grow, if possible more attached to each other. Their children are lovely. Really, it is an ideal family. Such things are said of other royal households. They may be true. I know that it is true of our King and Queen, and every one acyou the same thing."

The Marchesa's only son, Rudolph, is he head of the Peruzzi de Medici family. He is now about 30, of a vigorous personality and actively interested in the great tragedian, another of my fath-

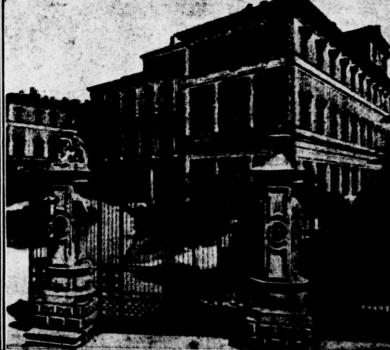
A hitherto unpublished photograph of William Wetmore Story and his family. From left to right, Julian Story, Mrs. W. W. Story, W. W. Story, Marchesa Peruzzi de Medici (Edith Marion Story) and Waldo Story.

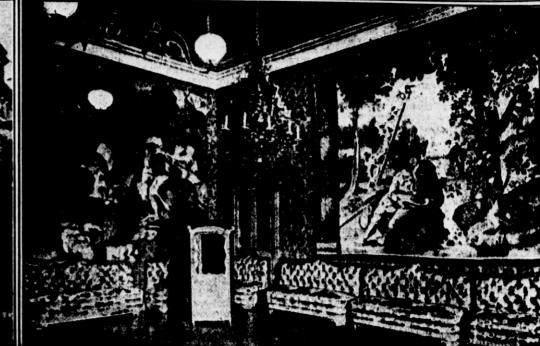
has also written a tragedy in blank verse which received favorable criticism. "The Peruzzis are not idlers," the Marchesa tells you. "Many of the name have excelled in other fields besides politics and banking. Baldassare Peruzzi was one of Italy's greatest architects and painters. He lived early in the fifteenth century. The Iron Baron Ricardo was a cousin of my husband's, and Ubaldino, a member of the Italian Cabinet, was another cousin. The Peruzzi and Medici families intermarried years and years ago. When the last of the reigning line of the Medici lay dying in Pitti Palace she made her will naming the Peruzzi nearest of kin as heir to her property, with the proviso that he should assume the name and titles of the Medici. For some time the the Peruzzi title and record was as great as if not greater than the Medici. Finally the King expressed a wish to have it done. He felt that both families Italy, that neither should be allowed to unrepresented. It was at King Humbert's especial request that my husband added the de Medici.

"On my return to Italy I shall recall the happiest days of my life while writing my biography. It will have to be a long book if I tell of all the famous people I have known and the interesting incidents I have witnessed as my father's daughter and my husband's wife. quainted with the Italian court will tell I have known them in every field. In music there was Liszt, a friend of my father's, and a charming man as well as a great composer. When I think of the stage there was Tommaso Salvini,









Room in Peruzzi Palace, Florence, Italy, showing part of famous hand wrought iron, said to be most valuable collection of its kind.

Barberini Palace, the Marchesa Peruzzi de Medici's home in Italy.